

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1597

**Introduced by Committee on Agriculture (Eggman (Chair), Olsen
(Vice Chair), Atkins, Dahle, Pan, Quirk, and Yamada)**

February 4, 2014

An act to amend Section 42815 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to food and agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1597, as introduced, Committee on Agriculture. Fruit, nut, and vegetable standards.

Existing law, until January 1, 2015, requires the Secretary of Food and Agriculture to create an industry-funded standardization program for purposes of implementing and enforcing provisions relating to fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Existing law requires the secretary to adopt regulations reasonably necessary to carry out those provisions, including establishing assessment rates and procedures for payment of assessments. Existing law establishes an assessment rate of \$0.003 per container for commodities that are not otherwise subject to a mandatory inspection fee, and an assessment rate of \$0.001 per container for commodities that are subject to a mandatory inspection fee, to be deposited in the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund and used for implementing and enforcing the provisions specified above. Existing law requires the secretary to exempt any commodity subject to those provisions if a petition representing a specified percentage of the producers is submitted to the secretary, as specified.

This bill would extend the repeal date of the standardization program provisions to January 1, 2020.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42815 of the Food and Agricultural Code
2 is amended to read:
3 42815. This article shall remain in effect only until January 1,
4 ~~2015~~, 2020, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
5 statute, which becomes effective on or before January 1, ~~2015~~,
6 2020, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative
7 and is repealed.

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